(d) Presumably by Super Highway Hon'ble Member means project of four/six laning of highways. In the State of Assam, the project of four laning of Km 156 to 164 of Guwahati bypass section of NH-37 has been taken up for construction under Phase-I programme of East- West corridor. The work of the project has been recently awarded by National Highways Authority of India.

Pending highway proposals of Rajasthan

5450. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of network of National Highways in the country;

(b) the national highways in Rajashtan;

(c) the demands and requests made by the Government of Rajasthan in this respect and the action taken thereon so far; and

(d) how many requests as received from the Government of Rajasthan are pending with the Central Government and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The total number of National Highways in the country are 143 with aggregate length of 52,0101 km at present. Out of this, 11 National Highways having a length of 4381 km fall in the State of Rajasthan.

(c) and (d) On the request of the State Government of Rajasthan, four roads totaling to 1450 km have already been declared as new National Highways in the 9th Five Year Plan. The remaining three proposals would be considered for new National Highways keeping in view the inter-se priority, requirements projected by various State Governments and the availability of funds for the purpose.

Super Highway Project

5451. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway Authority of India has finalised the outline of highway stretches from Saurashtra to Silchar and Kashmir to Kanyakumari; and

(b) if the answer is in affirmative, how many States of the country are going to benefit from this grand National Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The whole country will benefit from the project. However, the alignment of highways passes through 17 States in the country.

Inter-connection of Metro cities with NHs

5452. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to connect all the metropolitan cities through National Highways by 2003;

(b) if so, the names of those metropolitan cities which are still not inter connected by National Highways;

(c) whether the safety aspect on National Highways have been grossly ignored by the Union Government since the past several years resulting frequent robberies and plundering of vehicles; and

(d) if so, whether Government in consultation with State Government would formulate any strategy to deal the situation, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) All the metropolitan cities in the country are already connected through national highways.

(c) No, Sir, as far as the Ministry is concerned.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of NHs in Orissa with World Bank assistance

5453. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of roads which have been taken over from Orissa by the Central Government to be constructed and developed as the National Highway with the World Bank assistance;

(b) whether Government have taken over Panikauli Rajamunda road in Orissa as the National Highway and proposed to construct this road with the assistance of World Bank;

(c) what is the total estimated amount to be spent on the road and completion time; and